

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 093012

67
ORIGIN SS-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 093012

STADIS//////////

EXDIS TOSEC 57

E. O. 11652

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: WSAG MEETING, MAY 15, ON LEBANON

FOR THE SECRETARY

1. THERE FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF A MEMORANDUM BILL PORTER HAS
PREPARED ON THE FIRST PART OF THE MAY 15 WSAG MEETING.
WE WILL SEND YOU TOMORROW THE MEMORANDUM ON THE SOUTHEAST
ASIA PORTION. FYI BEIRUT 5588 (SENT AS TOSEC 44)
HAD NOT BEEN RECEIVED BY THE TIME OF THE MEETING. A
RESPONSE TO THAT MESSAGE IS BEING WORKED ON NOW. END FYI

2. KISSINGER STATED PURPOSE OF MEETING WAS TO DISCUSS
SITUATION AND POSSIBLE U. S. ACTION IN LEBANON IN CERTAIN
CIRCUMSTANCES. NEA HAD DRAFTED A MESSAGE TO BEIRUT
WHICH CONTAINED COMMENT AND INSTRUCTIONS ALONG LINES
PREVIOUSLY STATED BY THE SECRETARY IN HIS MEMO OF
NOVEMBER 30, 1972 TO THE PRESIDENT. KISSINGER EXPRESSED
VIEW THAT WORKING GROUP SHOULD BE SET UP TO DEVELOP A
CONTINGENCY PAPER FOR DEALING WITH A POSSIBLE OUTBREAK
IN THE LEBANON INVOLVING SYRIAN/ FEDAYEEN ACTION. THE
PAPER SHOULD ALSO COVER ACTIONS THE UNITED STATES MIGHT

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TAKE IF THE ISRAELIS BECAME INVOLVED IN AN EFFORT TO
PUSH THE SYRIANS OUT OF LEBANON; AND IT SHOULD DISCUSS
PROBLEMS WE WOULD HAVE TO FACE IF IT BECAME NECESSARY TO
REMOVE AMERICAN CITIZENS AS A RESULT OF A DETERIORATION
OF CONDITIONS THERE. FINALLY, THE PAPER SHOULD PROVIDE
FOR DIPLOMATIC ACTION THE U. S. SHOULD CONSIDER IN SUCH

CIRCUMSTANCES, INCLUDING THE NATURE OF ANY APPROACH
TO THE SOVIETS WE MIGHT DEEM NECESSARY.

3. CIA PROVIDED AN ESTIMATE INDICATING THE SITUATION
WAS SOMEWHAT BETTER IN THE LEBANON AT THE PRESENT TIME,
THOUGH THE SEEDS OF STRIFE REMAINED. SCHLESINGER ADDED
THAT IN THE MIDDLE EAST GENERALLY, THE ATMOSPHERE WAS
IMPROVING AND THAT EGYPTIAN MILITARY POSTURE AT THE
PRESENT INDICATED THAT THEY WERE NOT LIKELY TO ENGAGE
IN MILITARY ACTION FOR THE PRESENT AT LEAST. RUSH

SECRET
NMAFVVZCZ

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*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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